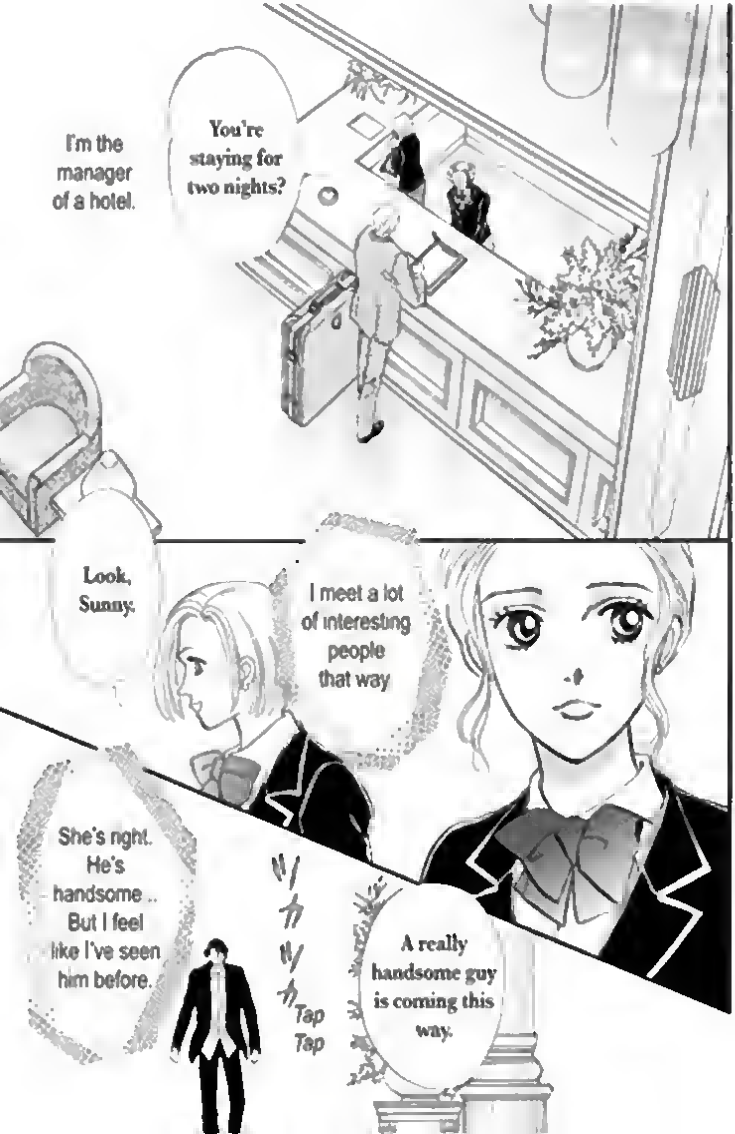
Passion Romance

HARLEQUIN

Something Old, Something New

Original Text by Donna Sterling

Junko Okada


I'm the manager of a hotel.
You're staying for two nights?
Look, Sunny.
I meet a lot of interesting people that way
She's right. He's handsome.. But I feel like I've seen him before.
Tap Tap
A really handsome guy is coming this way.

Something Old, Something New

Junko Okada

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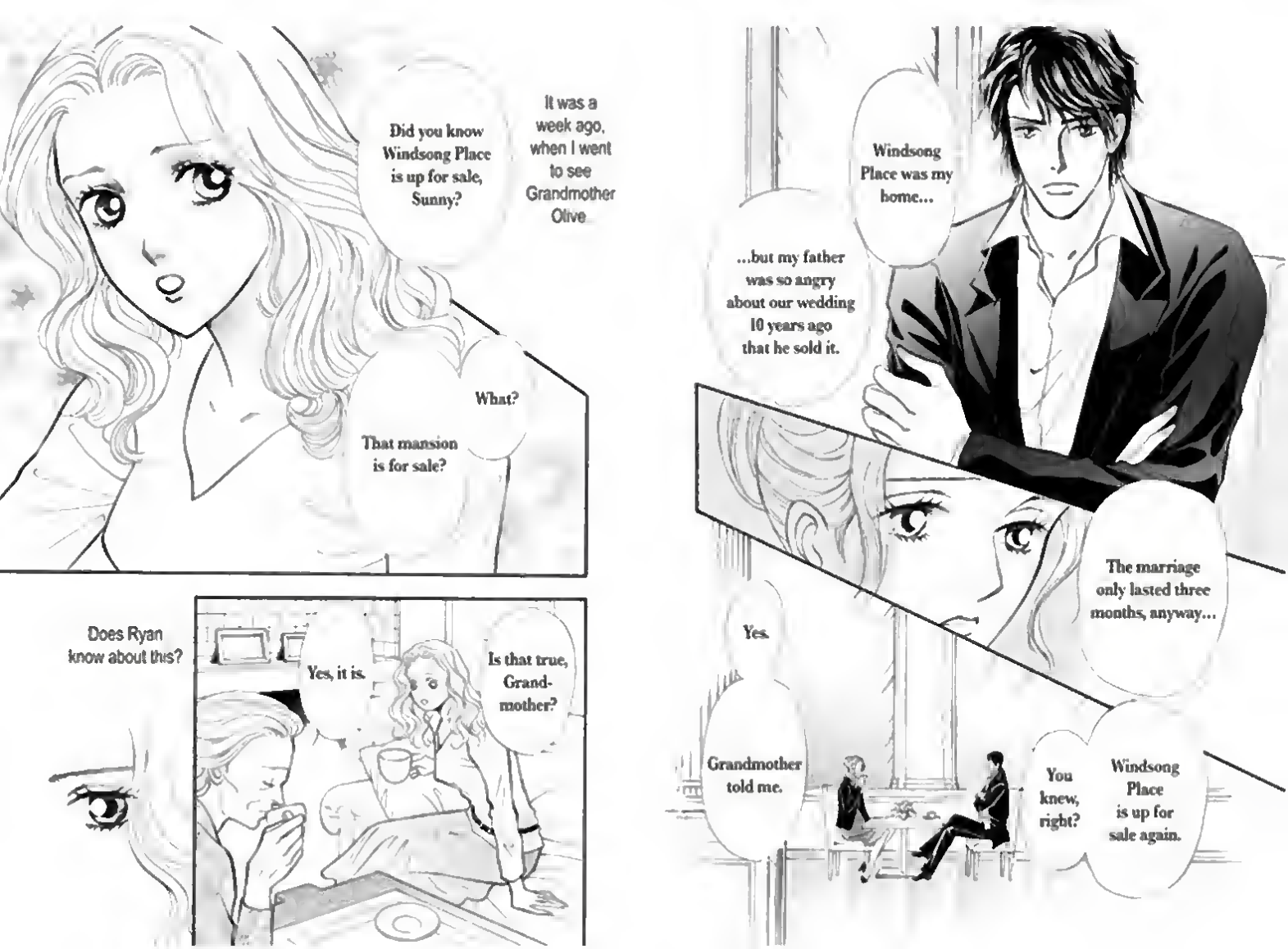
It's your fault.
You went to Windsong Place.
!?
What?
A mansion at the foot of the mountains in North Carolina.
Windsong Place
Why don't you go on break, Sunny?
This sounds complicated.

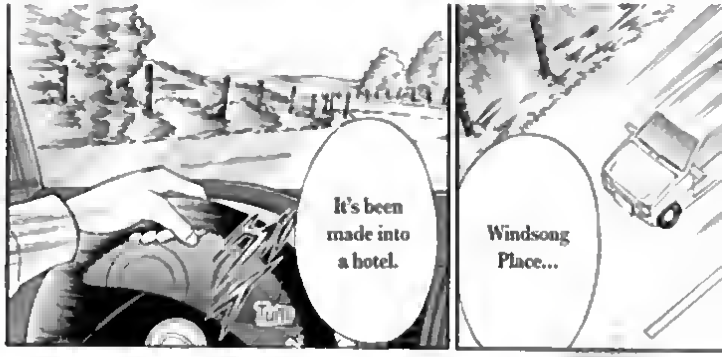
We've been divorced for 10 years.
A long time ago.
You're married, Sunny?
What is my ex-husband doing here?
Too bad.
That's why I go by Sunny Shannon now, sir.
I need you to become Mrs. Alexander again.


Did you know Windsong Place is up for sale, Sunny?
It was a week ago, when I went to see Grandmother Olive
What?
That mansion is for sale?
Does Ryan know about this?
Yes, it is.
Is that true, Grand-mother?
Windsong Place was my home...
...but my father was so angry about our wedding 10 years ago that he sold it.
The marriage only lasted three months, anyway...
Yes.
Grandmother told me.
You knew, right?
Windsong Place is up for sale again.

Don't treat me like such an old woman. I'm fine by myself.
With your recent heart surgery, I've been worried about you.
I don't intend to die without seeing my granddaughter happily married.
Won't you come live with me?
I can't let her keep living by herself forever.
I would, if I had one!
Vroom
Next time, bring your boyfriend.
Grandmother Olive raised me in my mother's place.

Ryan and I have known each other since childhood
Windsong Place is the most beautiful mansion
It's been so long since I retired from being the maid at Windsong Place.
I was born in that place and started working there as a maid when I was 16.
Clever girl.
You don't want to move away from it, do you?

No.
Are you staying there?
You've been staring at it for a long time.
This place...
...it holds a lot of memories for me.
I...
I met Ryan here...
...and we got married.
I just love romance.
How romantic.
Oh, my.


It's been made into a hotel.
Windsong Place...

Do you like the hotel?
My mother was more interested in chasing love than raising children and left me with Grandmother.
That's when I met Ryan, who was two years older.

What is Ryan doing here?

Sunny.
I'm Lavinia. What's your name?
You don't mean Ryan Alexander, do you?
Ryan...
What?
Y-Yes.
About the conditions to buy the hotel...
Mrs. Tanner.
Ryan Alexander!
Sunny?

I'm so glad that you're married.
...it would have to go to a loving, married couple.
I promised myself as a condition to selling the hotel...
!
I didn't expect to see Ryan there.
I don't believe it.
I haven't seen him in 10 years, since we divorced.

What are you doing here?
I was... taking a walk.
A walk...?
She must have come because she was worried about you.
I need to get back.
Dash
Huh...?
You must be so happy.
Your wife is a darling.

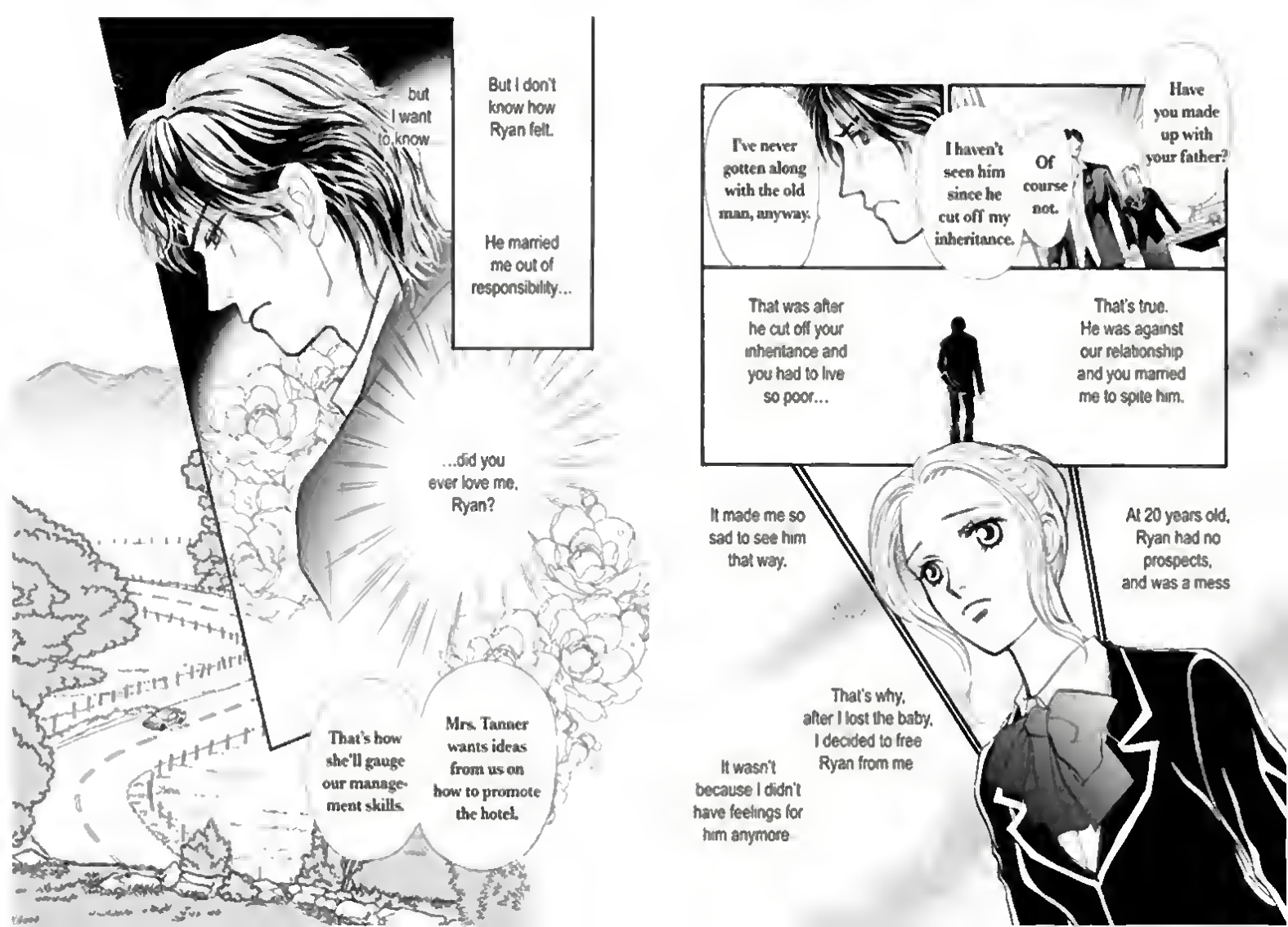
I need you to be my wife again.
Listen, Sunny.
I want that mansion back, no matter what it takes.
!
To be more specific, I want you to act as my wife...
...until I buy the mansion back.
Are you serious?
Dead serious.

Calm down, Sunny.
You can't get worked up.
You've been over how you felt about him for years...
And now Ryan is standing before me again.
...will only sell it to a loving, married couple.
The owner of Windsong Place...
And it's your fault!
B-But...
...but seeing him after 10 years, he looks so intrepid.
Now, she thinks we're still married.

You're one to talk!
You only married me because I got pregnant!
I never would have thought ...
I didn't!
...that you had married me for money.
Th-there was no reason for us to stay married.
Then, after I lost the baby...
...
If you'll act as my wife, I'll compensate you.
Let's not talk about the past.
Let's talk about business instead.

You'll have to.
No.
Act as your wife?
I can't lie to people...
That's right.
...to trick them into thinking that.
After all, you were the cause of all this in the first place.
Frown
It was because of the marriage that I didn't get my inheritance and was left penniless.
That's why I agreed to the divorce.

You're so headstrong!
Get ready.
That's too sudden!
I've already told her we'll be there.
She wants to observe our married life...
...and gauge our ability to manage the hotel.
I know that... Still...
That's right.
That's the kind of man I am.
...that's also what I liked about you...
The seller wants to sell the mansion to be part of a chain of hotels.
I heard.
The buyer has to run the hotel for 15 years after the purchase.
Then...
...hire me as the manager of the Windsong Place Hotel!
All right. You're hired.
That way, I can live with Grandmother.
What?
Mrs. Tanner has invited us to Windsong Place.
Take a week off of work, starting tomorrow.
We have a deal.


but I want to know
But I don't know how Ryan felt.
He married me out of responsibility...
...did you ever love me, Ryan?
That's how she'll gauge our management skills.
Mrs. Tanner wants ideas from us on how to promote the hotel.
I've never gotten along with the old man, anyway.
I haven't seen him since he cut off my inheritance.
Of course not.
Have you made up with your father?
That was after he cut off your inheritance and you had to live so poor...
That's true. He was against our relationship and you married me to spite him.
It made me so sad to see him that way.
At 20 years old, Ryan had no prospects, and was a mess
That's why, after I lost the baby, I decided to free Ryan from me
It wasn't because I didn't have feelings for him anymore

Play it cool.
We're here.
I've been waiting for you!
There you are!
Take a look!
I prepared a special room for you two.

Put this on before we reach the hotel.
I have my own work to do.
I'll leave running the hotel to you.
All right. I understand.
I read about that.
It's an IT business, right?
Since I didn't get my inheritance ...
I had to work hard to make my business successful on my own.
I've read all the articles about Ryan's business, and his flagrant love life
It's a wedding ring.
Looks expensive.

I don't care to do any "overtime."
I'm not sleeping in the same bed as you.
No.
Can't we just stay in another room?
Rock, paper, scissors.
So I get the bed!
I'm not the one who lost.
You really expect me to sleep on the couch?

Slam
We'll talk tomorrow.
Rest easy tonight.
Of course. We're supposed to be married.
There's only one bed!
It's perfect. Thank you.

...do what?
And...
If you like, I can start treating you like a woman.
What ...
...do you want me to do?
Hmph.
.....
Fine! I'll sleep on the couch!
Fump
Good night!
Thump
Thump
Thump

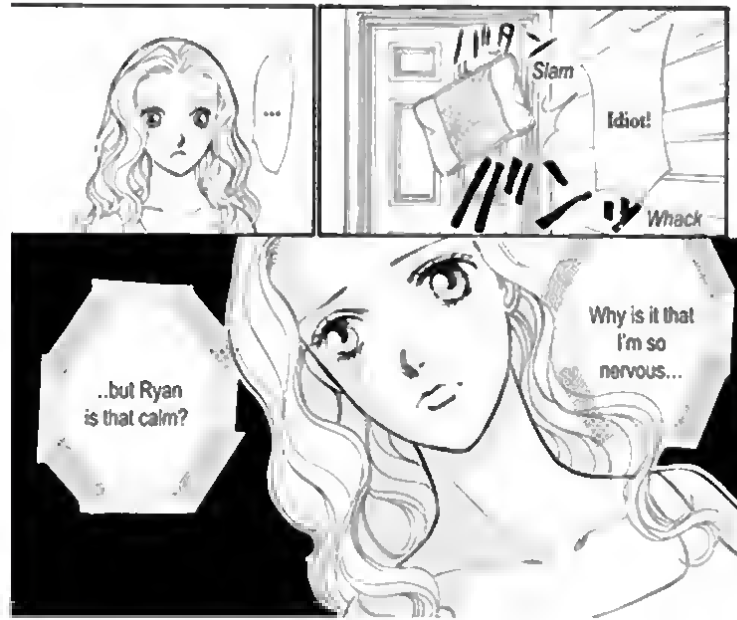
You're supposed to be a man!
Not even a little.
You're joking, right?
But I'm a girl!
You jerk!
So you want me to be a man?
...

No, it's the sound of the wind from the mountains
Someone singing
Eeeeee
The sound of the wind was so frightening when I first came here
That's why this mansion is called Windsong Place
...is the sound of ghosts on Devil's Ridge, crying out!
That sound ...
How!
Be nice to her, Master Ryan.
This is my granddaughter, Sunny.
Aiiieee!

I can't stand it.
He hasn't changed at all.
He's just enjoying making fun of me.
Ryan always got his locks teasing me...
I used to love it ..
...when we were kids.

Squeeze
Mm
...
...
There's nothing to be afraid of if we stick together.
It's all right. I'll protect you.
We used to sleep in the same bed all the time back then.
Then, after we grew up and saw each other as man and woman...
...we went from childhood friends, to lovers, to husband and wife.
But now...
...we're a phony couple.

I'm going to use the shower first.
Don't peek.
Let's get dressed and go eat breakfast.
Even if you were asleep...!
It's time to wake up, anyway.


...
Slam
Idiot!
Whack
..but Ryan is that calm?
Why is it that I'm so nervous...

Why am I in the bed?
What are you doing next to me?
Fwoosh
Huh ?
The sofa looked uncomfortable.
And then you decided to cop a feel?
I carried you to the bed.

I didn't mean to.
I was asleep.
Your hand was on my...
Yes, you did!
No, I didn't.

...to a couple that doesn't get along.
I don't want to sell the hotel...
Oh...? Why not?
Why...?
She'll get on!
You two aren't fighting, are you?
Don't worry. I know how to steer it.
We're getting on that balloon!
Blast off!
In that case...

We've already hired a hot air balloon.
It's not fair.
That sounds interesting.
A promotion idea to fly a hot air balloon?
Would you like to give it a try, Lavinia?
Yes. The view around here is wonderful.
There's no way we can't take advantage of it.
Oh, no. I can't.
I would like to see you two on it, though.
I'm an old woman. I'll pass.

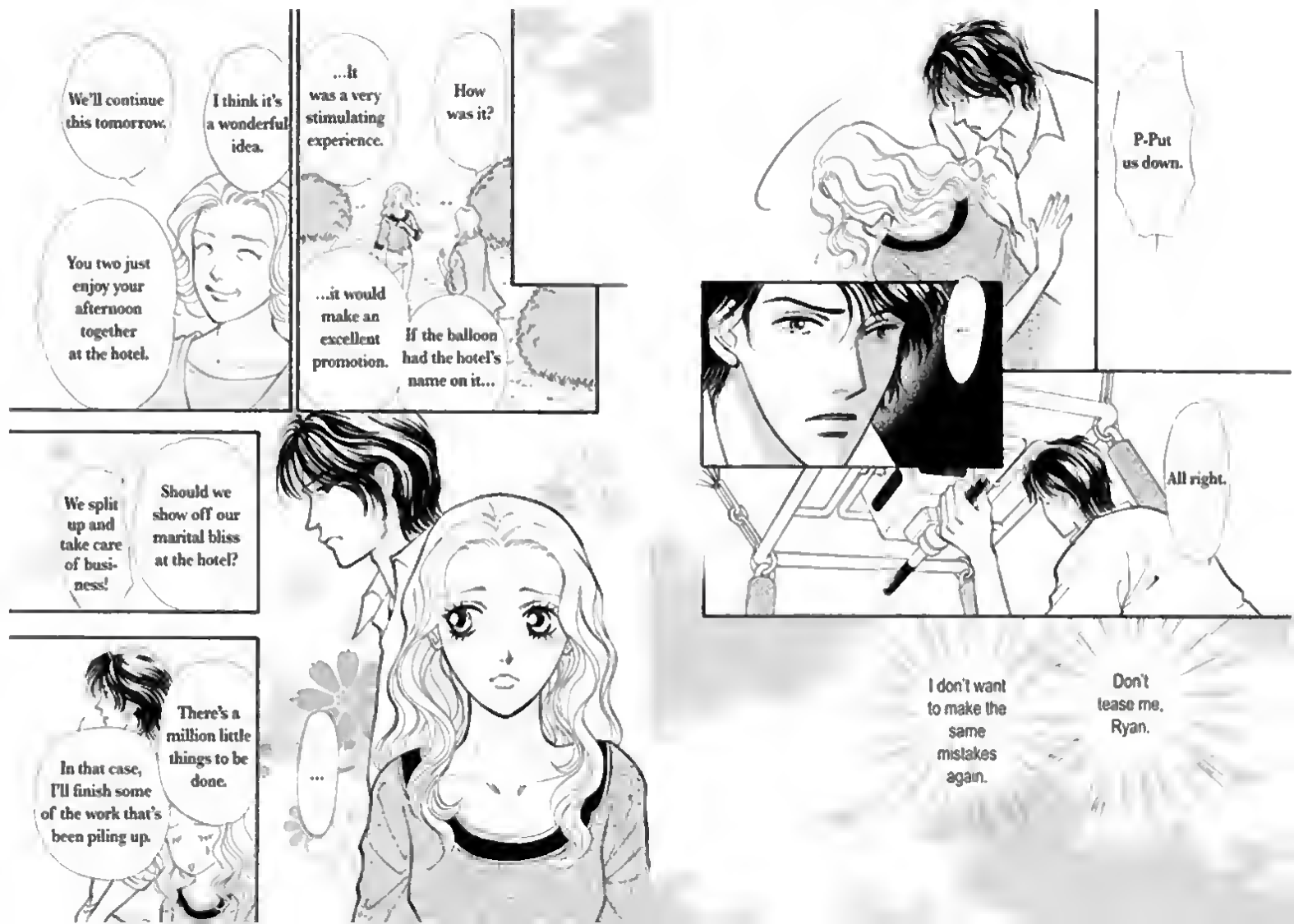
That's Devil's Ridge.
...feels good.
The wind ...
My dream is to go rock climbing there.

Let's get some altitude.
Have fun!
What a view...!
Take a look.
Windsong Place looks like a miniature garden.

Aiiie!
Grab
It's all right. I'm here.
We're not going to fall.
I promise we won't fall.
Trust me, Sunny.

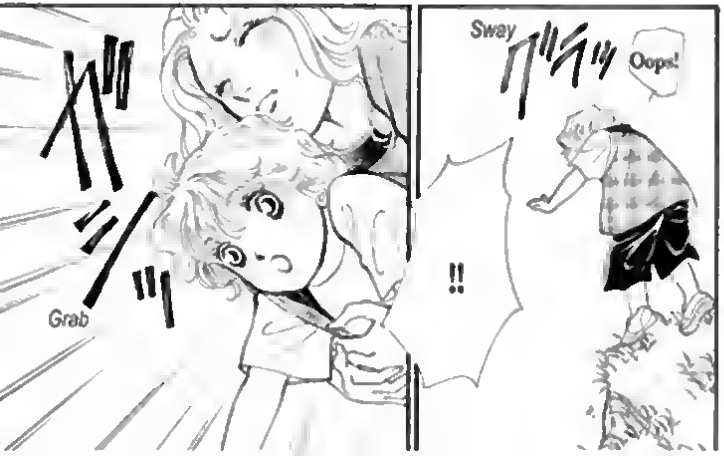
How could I?
Why didn't you say anything?
What?
My head is spinning
I'm terrified of heights.
Swing
Fwoosh
We're going to fall! We're going to fall!
Aiieee!

Oh –
I feel like
I'm going
to faint.
Wha ..
My body
is going
limp.
I can't
keep
standing.

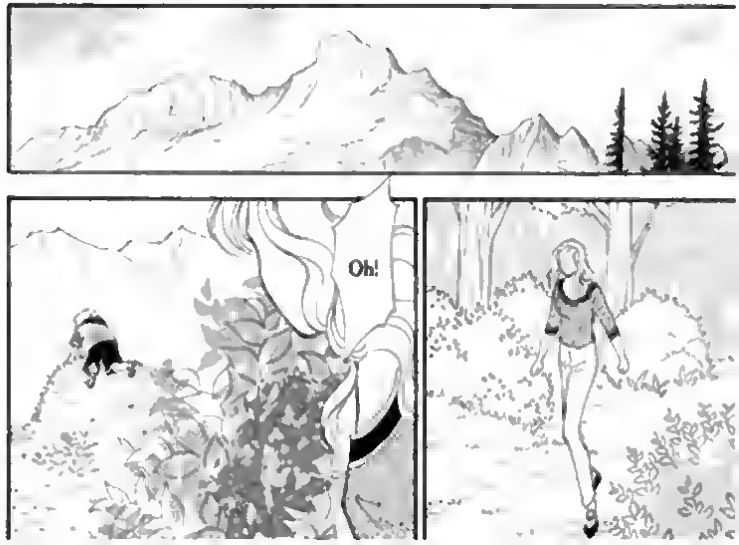

We'll continue this tomorrow.
I think it's a wonderful idea.
You two just enjoy your afternoon together at the hotel.
...It was a very stimulating experience.
How was it?
...it would make an excellent promotion.
If the balloon had the hotel's name on it...
We split up and take care of business!
Should we show off our marital bliss at the hotel?
In that case, I'll finish some of the work that's been piling up.
There's a million little things to be done.
...
P-Put us down.
...
All right.
I don't want to make the same mistakes again.
Don't tease me, Ryan.

Maybe if I can conquer my fear of heights, I won t be nervous around Ryan anymore?
Ah!
Oh ..
I should never have agreed to this!
It's too dangerous to be alone with Ryan any longer.
悪魔の尾根
Devil's Ridge
I know that Ryan's good-looking. That's why...
What a good-looking guy!
Maybe he's alone? You should talk to him!

I found a really rare Cullowhee lily!
I want to show it to Daddy!
It's dangerous there, little boy.
Come back over here.


Grab
Sway
Oops!
!!

Dam-mit!
I can't concentrate! Why?
Glare
Slam


Oh!

...
Whew
...
Squawk
Don't look down, don't look down
Nope
I'll just have to wait for help.
It's the Cullowhee lily that the boy was looking at.
It's supposed to be an endangered species.

Dangerous ...
This place is very dangerous.
You shouldn't be so careless.
Phew!
Aah~!
The lady fell off the cliff!
Lady!
Aieee!
Spin
Sway

Hold on to me.
Ryan!
I'll get you to the top.
ギュウ
Squeeze

Grab
Crumble
Drop
Aiieee!
Endan-gered species?
If I become extinct right now...
...I'll never be able to see Ryan again!

All I can hear...

The sound of the wind and the cries of the birds have all disappeared.

...is Ryan's breathing and heartbeat

Hug

!

I'm glad you're all right.

You're safe now.

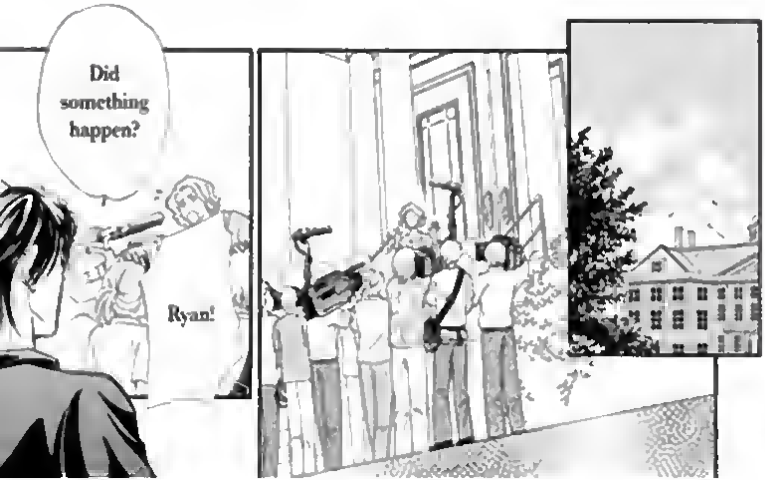
Grab

Here we go.

Pant
Pant

What were you doing here, Ryan?
...That's what I thought.
I was rock climbing, and there was a boy shouting.
Until I get the mansion back...
...you're my beloved wife.
Let me see.
You're hurt!
Oh.
...I don't know what I would do.
Just thinking if something had happened to you...
What?
Push
...
You mean because you need me...
What does he mean?
...to get the mansion back?
That's right...
I knew it.

Yes.
To being friends, then.
...Yes.
I prefer this to having him hate me.
Friends.
I'm all right with that.


Did something happen?
Ryan!

Oh, Ryan... I still love you..
I feel like I can't breathe. I want to run...
I was thinking, Sunny...
Before we were married...?
Couldn't we go back 10 years, to the relationship we had before we were married?
Without the love.
... friends.
When we were just childhood...

Who are you?
I...
Answer us!
She's my wife!
Stop that!
You told me you'd divorced Ryan years ago, Sunny!
Your wife?

The boy said the woman who attacked him fell off a cliff!
Um...
I think I might be who he was talking about.
Some woman attacked one of the guests' children!
What?
She's turning herself in?
I was ...
W-What do you mean?
Why a child? What were you after?
You're the one who did it?

First of all...
Ryan and I...
...have gotten back together recently, Grandmother.
That's right, Olive.
So you were only worried about my health.
We didn't want to stress you, so we haven't had a ceremony yet.
We were going to tell you, but you'd just had your heart surgery...
The next thing is about the boy...
...we can't have a scandal here, Sunny.
Of course.
And you're really a couple?

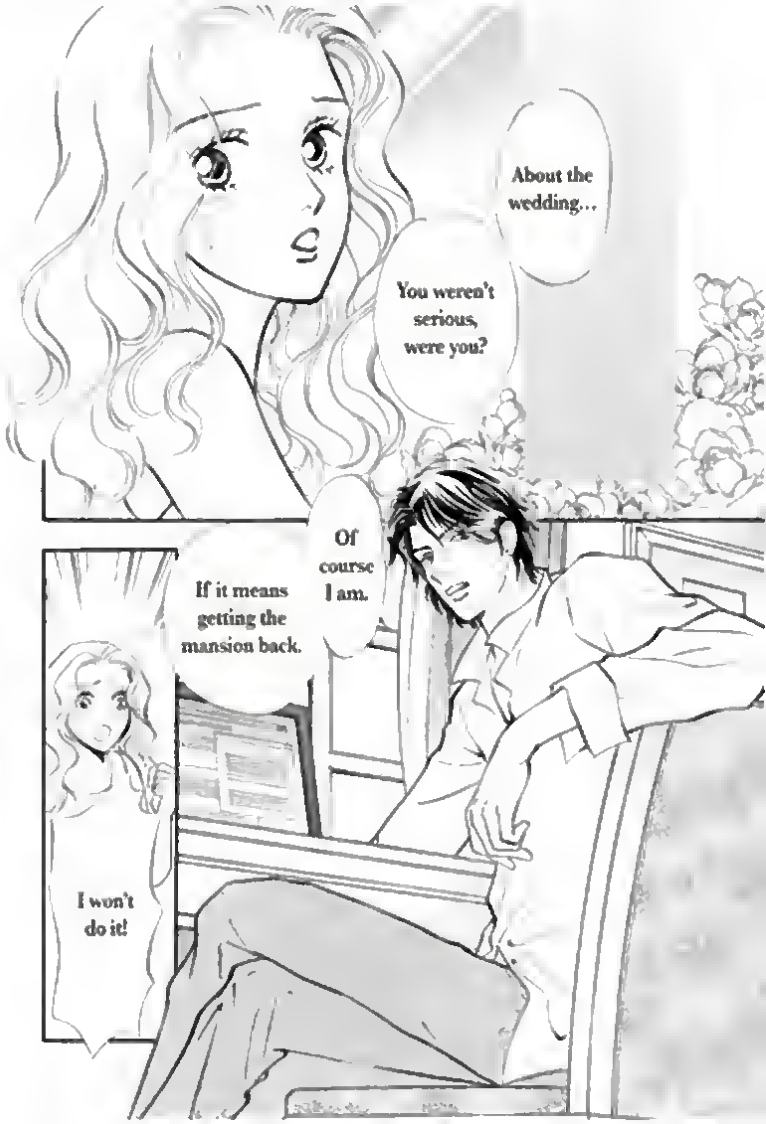
What are you doing here?
I come to eat dinner here once a month.
Grand-mother ...
Who is that?
It's Sunny's grandmother. Olive.
This press conference is over! Come back tomorrow.
I want to hear what's going on, as well.
You two aren't married?

It's a very brave thing you've done. You're a courageous little boy.
Thank you for telling the truth.
Oh!
How romantic!
After I fell from the cliff, Ryan rescued me.
Let's hold your wedding ceremony here at the hotel!
I've got it!
Oh!
...he has something to say.
Excuse me.
About my son...
Mm ...
Say it, Jonathan.
I thought Daddy would be mad at me for playing by the cliff, so I lied.
I'm sorry! She didn't really attack me!
The lady saved me when I almost fell.
Sniff
Sniff

...but I trust you, Sunny.
It was a lot to take in at once...
What?
I'm sorry I had to lie to you, Grandmother.

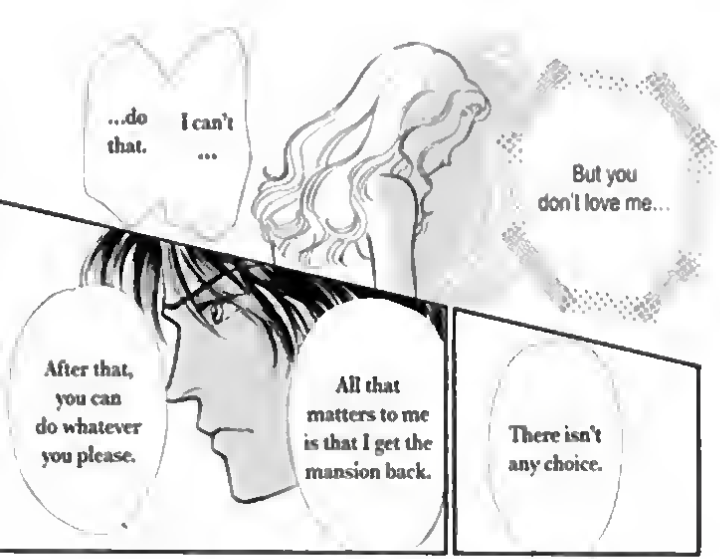
I'd be only too happy to turn the hotel over to you two.
And the wedding that they put off for her sick grandmother...
The groom saves the bride after she saves a child.
...should be grand!
It's a story full of drama and it will be good publicity for the hotel.
You have no objections, I hope?
None.

You should be used to it by now.
If you don't want to marry me that badly...
...just divorce me after the wedding again, like before.
You're awful...
A dream of a loving husband and child...
...raising a family in a happy home.
I don't want to keep getting divorced.
I have my own dream of marriage.

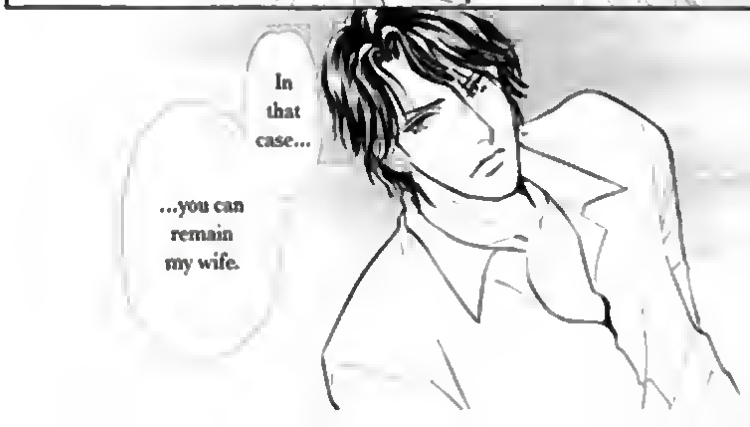

About the wedding...
You weren't serious, were you?
Of course I am.
If it means getting the mansion back.
I won't do it!

If she finds out who I am, my father will hear about it!
No!
Bang
Why can't we just tell Lavinia the truth...?
Let her know that this mansioo belonged to your mother...
If that happens, he'll try to interfere!
You have to help me, Sunny.
This is the only way.

To me, marriage...
Don't you know how much I wish that husband were you, Ryan...?
Your happy family is nothing but a fantasy.
...is nothing but patiently enduring hell, every day.
That's how you feel about marrying me?


...do that.
I can't ...
But you don't love me...
After that, you can do whatever you please.
All that matters to me is that I get the mansion back.
There isn't any choice.
...I'll sleep in the room next door.
Tonight ...

Why is Ryan so against marriage?



So neither Ryan nor I had a happy childhood.
I didn't know that.
Ever since that day...
I think his heart has been broken.
Lady!
Thanks for saving me.
Oh!
Daddy wants to invite you for dinner, as thanks.
I'd be happy to.
Okay! I'll be back to get you later.

Maybe Grandmother knows something I don't.
That boy isn't suited for married life.
I'm worried you'll end up just like 10 years ago.
Grand-mother ...
The boy can't love anyone and never stays with anyone very long.
It might be because of his parents' hostile married life.
Those two never stopped fighting until the day she left him and died in a traffic accident.

You're going out?
Right... That kid you rescued.
Jonathan invited me to dinner.
Knock Knock
There he is.
I'll pass.
Want to come?
Good evening, miss.
Say hello, Jonathan.
If we did have a child...
...would our relationship be different?
If Ryan and I'd had a child, he would be about that age.
Jump
Sure.
Can you get my straps, Ryan?

She died shortly after giving birth to him.
Then Jonathan's mother...
No problem. I have my daddy.

He must be proud of you.
Daddy will get lonely, so dance with him next, okay?
Sure thing.
All right.
Let's dance!

I'll see you later, Ryan.

Click

Who does that guy think he is?

Thank you for accepting my son's invitation. I'm Grady Barrett.

Good night, Sunny.
Gasp
...
Tag, Daddy!
I wish she would marry Daddy...
...that you're already married.
It's such a shame...
What?

I get it.
You...
You'd have your happy household if you married him.
...like him, then?
That guy looked like he wanted more from you.
Grady is a nice guy!
Well, I'm sorry that you have to be married to me!
Ryan...

Was he watching?
What is Ryan doing in the hallway?

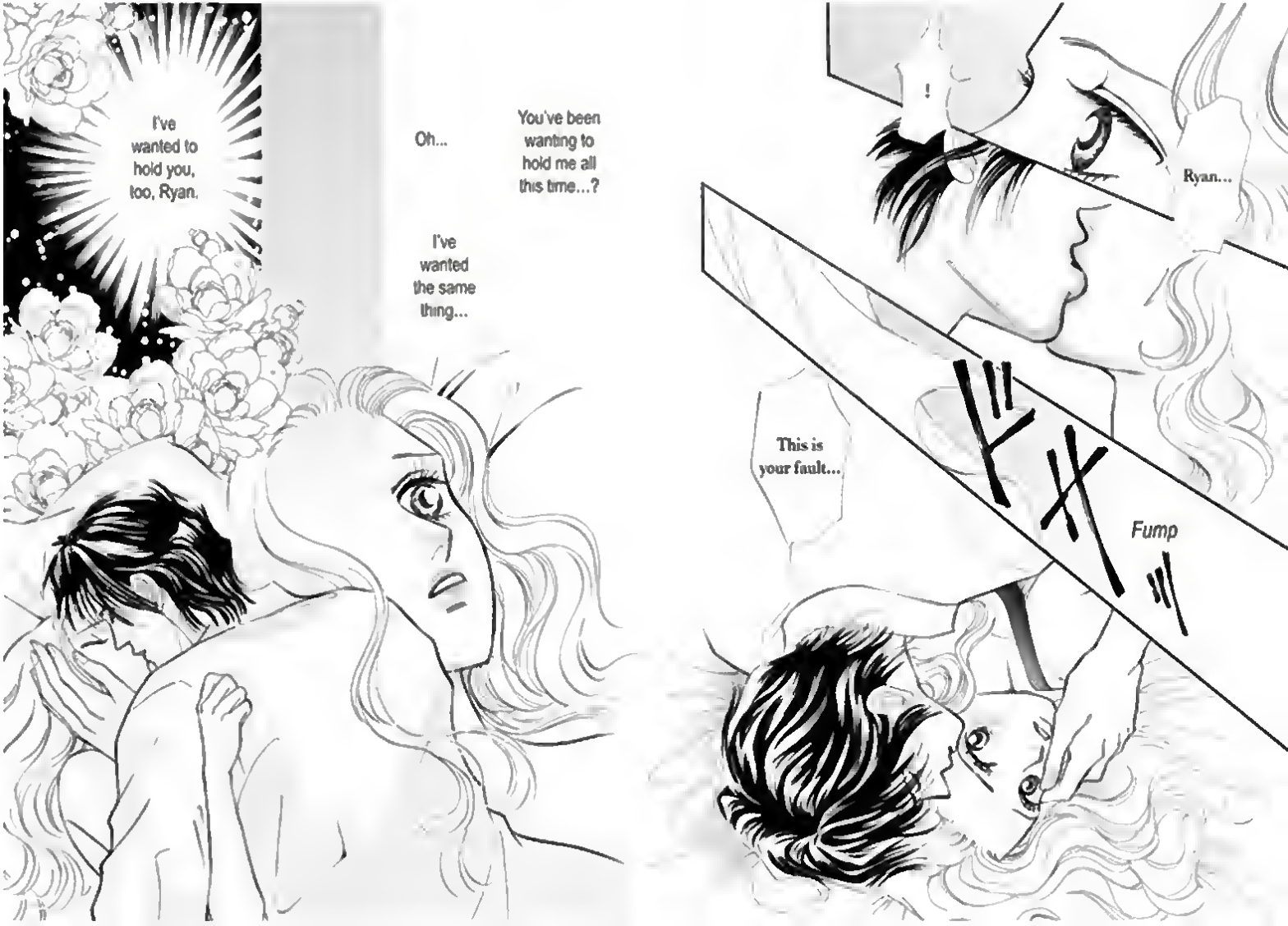
I don't care.
Jonathan wanted me to stay with him until he fell asleep.
You can do whatever you want.

Except ...
Hmph!
...you're supposed to be my wife, so don't go overboard.

Do you know what time it is?
I'm back.

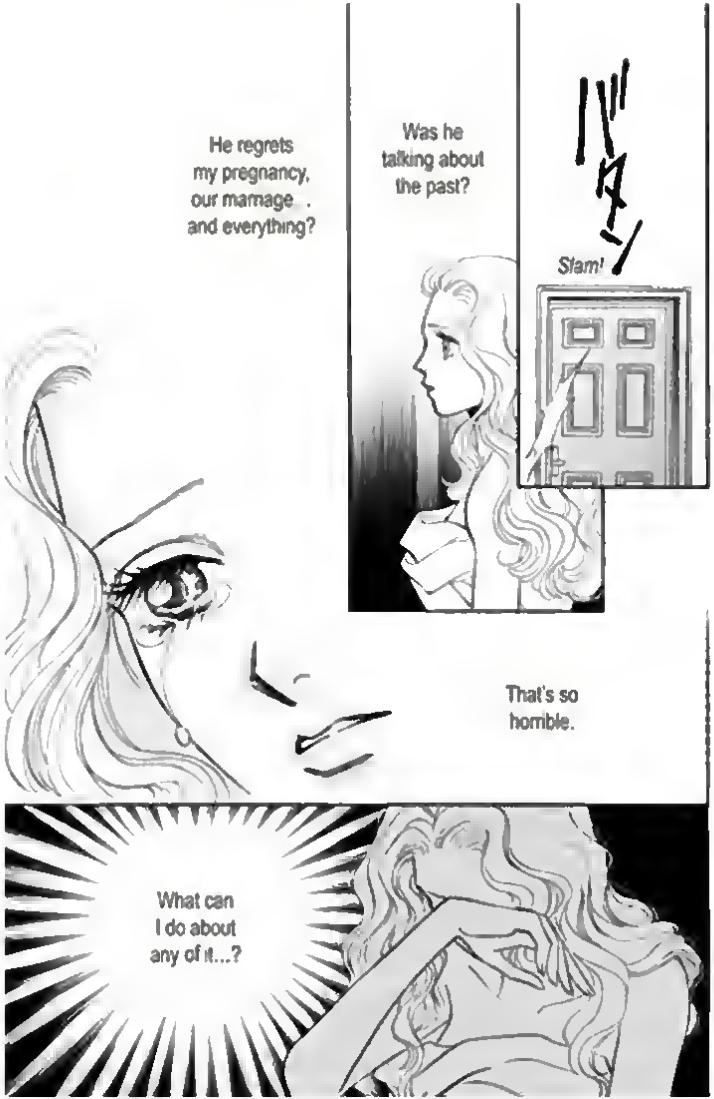
When you're around me, I get tense.
How could you not know?
Your hair... Your lips...
I...
You know how much I want to touch them.
It's taking everything I have to stop myself...!

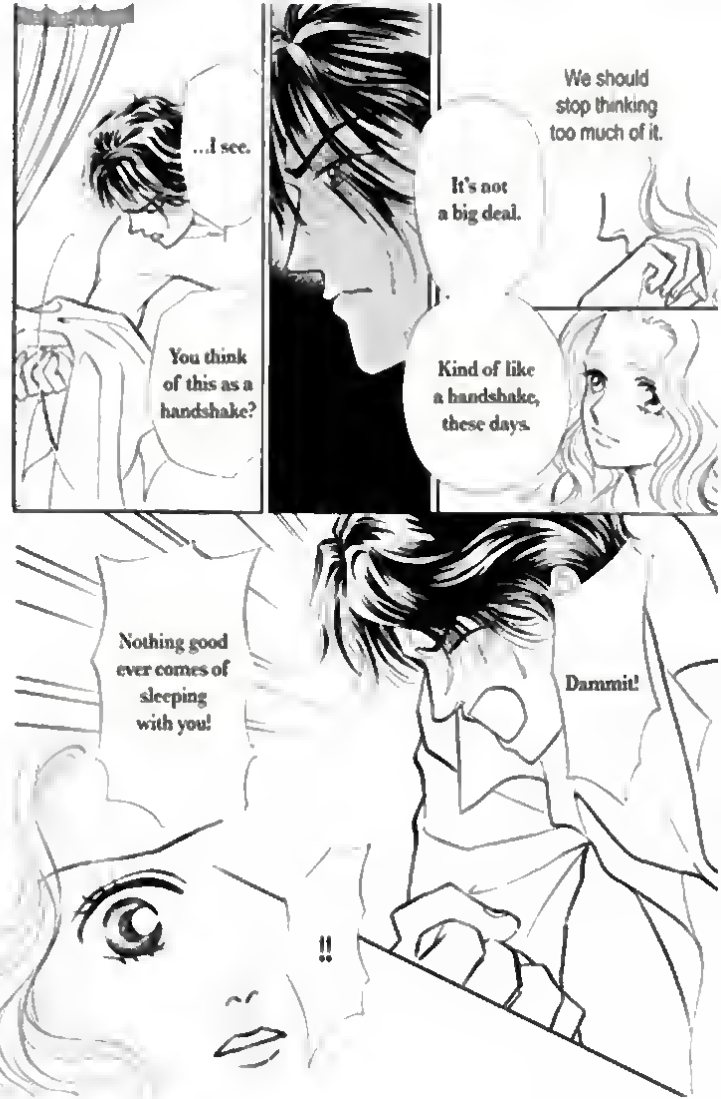
I'm doing my best...
Don't touch me!
What are you so angry about?
ビク Gasp
What happened, Ryan?
...to treat you like a friend...
...and you just don't get it!
I don't know what I did.


I've wanted to hold you, too, Ryan.
Oh...
You've been wanting to hold me all this time...?
I've wanted the same thing...
!
Ryan...
This is your fault...
Fump

...
I'm sorry.
I didn't mean for this to happen.
Yes.
What ...?
...You regret it?
!?
...
Don't say that...
I'm going to cry.

I never saw anyone else in 10 years, because I couldn't ... forget you ..


He regrets my pregnancy, our marriage... and everything?
Was he talking about the past?
Slam!
That's so horrible.
What can I do about any of it...?


...I see.
You think of this as a handshake?
We should stop thinking too much of it.
It's not a big deal.
Kind of like a handshake, these days.
Nothing good ever comes of sleeping with you!
Dammit!
!!

"My wife..."
You don't mean it.

There's no part of you that means it.

All so that Ryan can get back Windsong Place...

We act like a loving couple in front of everyone...

...but we avoid each other at night

What about my feelings?

Things that are against what my heart wants keep getting decided for me.

After the wedding, you can leave for your honeymoon by hot air balloon!

It will make a great promotion.

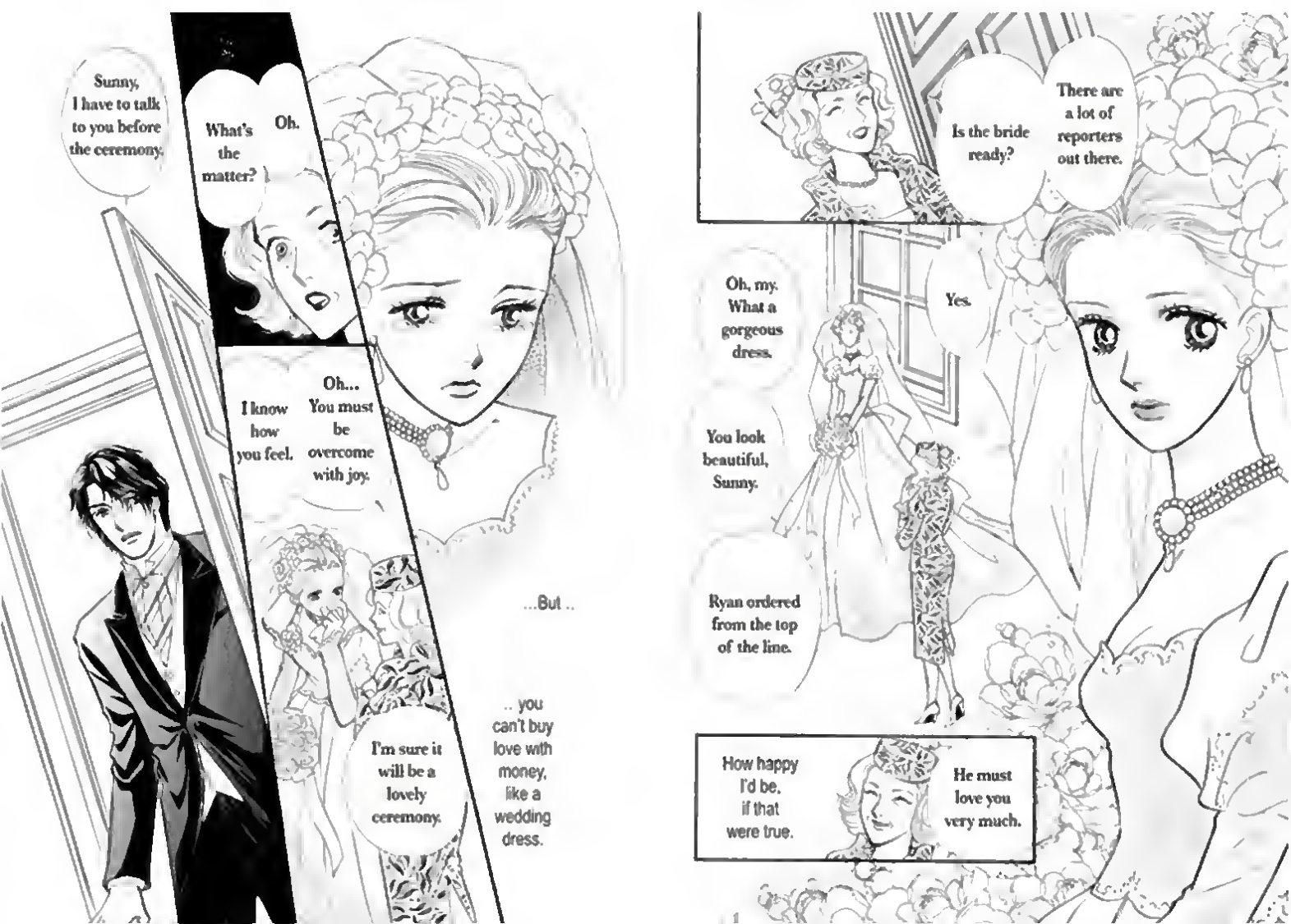
Now... Let's go tell the press everything.

The wedding is one of the conditions...

...so we'll have it in three days.

Of course.

...


Sunny, I have to talk to you before the ceremony.
What's the matter?
Oh.
I know how you feel.
Oh... You must be overcome with joy.
I'm sure it will be a lovely ceremony.
...But ..
.. you can't buy love with money, like a wedding dress.
There are a lot of reporters out there.
Is the bride ready?
Yes.
Oh, my. What a gorgeous dress.
You look beautiful, Sunny.
Ryan ordered from the top of the line.
How happy I'd be, if that were true.
He must love you very much.

I need your signature on this document.
It says you won't ask for ownership of Windsong Place.
I'm speechless.
This is the first time I've seen you as a bride.
Right.
What do you want?
The thing is...
Well, we didn't have a ceremony 10 years ago.
This way, we won't fight over property when we get divorced again.
I have something I need to ask Sunny.
...
The groom isn't supposed to see the bride before the wedding.
What's the matter, Ryan?
...
The ceremony will start soon. Be quick about it.

...and I haven't laid eyes on your father since the divorce.
I never took any money...
My father told me.
What are you talking about?
He said you asked for money to break up with me and gleefully accepted it.
You've been believing your father's lie for 10 years?
!
I let you be free of me!
I thought that I was holding you back.
...But you left me.

I don't care if you throw me out in the street naked afterward!
I'll sign anything you want!
You can have the fortune I've made over the years...
...but not Windsong Place.
If that's what you want...
...But you took the money, 10 years ago.
I don't want a cent from you!
I didn't say I won't give you anything!

All I want is your love.
Not a phony marriage.
...
I can't give you...
...something I've never had.
...
I can't.

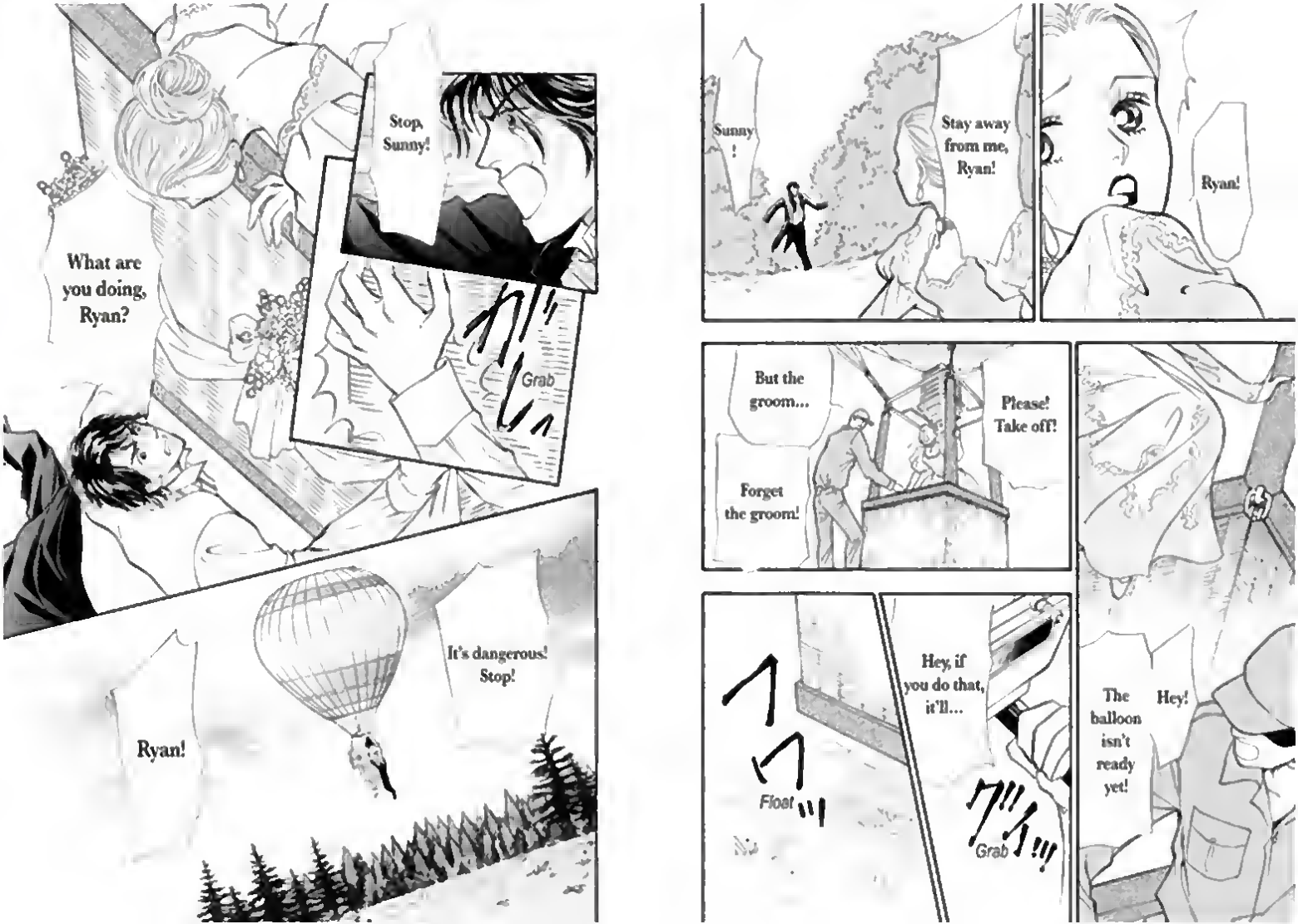
...
The thing ...
...that I want most...
I want to thank you, so tell me what you want.
Then I should thank you.
I'm grateful. I'm free, because of you.
Tell me.
What is it?
It's...
...your love.

Everything...
Slam
...was so
that Ryan
could get back
Windsong Place...

Fwap
All right, Ms. Bride. Let's start the ceremony.
What?
Sunny!
I don't care about Windsong Place anymore.
I never want to hear its wind song again.
I don't want to be here a minute longer!
I *hate* Windsong Place!

What's so important about Windsong Place?
It hurts to breathe
...not to make me feel like this!
I can't take it anymore
I can't do anything.
I've had enough!

Without that...
What I needed...
...was any excuse for why Sunny left me.
...I couldn't have handled losing her!
Sunny!
I knew Sunny wasn't the type to take money, but she still left me...
I should have known
Rustle
The bride's run away!
What happened?
Ryan, come quick! Sunny's run off!
This is just part of the performance, everyone!
Dash
I'm going after her!
What?


What are you doing, Ryan?
Stop, Sunny!
Grab
Ryan!
It's dangerous! Stop!
Sunny !
Stay away from me, Ryan!
Ryan!
But the groom...
Forget the groom!
Please! Take off!
Float
Hey, if you do that, it'll...
Grab
The balloon isn't ready yet!
Hey!

Stay away from me!
Just leave me alone!
No.
I can't let you leave...
...while you're still hurt.

Ryan!
Ungh!
Grab

I know that it was wrong.
I just ...
I'm sorry I ran away.
Step
Whew!
Why are you doing this?

...is you.
Howl
Jerk
Fwoosh
Aeeee!

The reason I wanted the mansion back...
...is because Windsong Place...
...is where all my memories of you are.
But...
The mansion is full of happy memories of us together.
...it wasn't the mansion that I wanted back.
I thought I could get back the happiness I felt back then if I owned the mansion.
I finally realized it. What I really wanted back...

I don't want to lose you, Sunny.
You're more important to me than anything else.

Krack
Fump
What did you say, Ryan .?
What..
Say it...
Say it one more time ..

A Cullowhee lily...

Ryan...
No.
Is this heaven...?
Am I dead?
No.

...and I never want to lose you again.
Please, Sunny.
...what love is.
Teach me...
I don't know what love is.
I grew up with parents who hated each other.
But ...
...I can say this.
I really care about you...

...just like these Cullowhee lilies.
..I'll make flowers of love bloom throughout your heart...
I promise ..
Yes I'll teach you, Ryan.
Love is what you're feeling right now.

..And we'll start a family full of love, together
...let's have our wedding ..
...for real, this time
Once we get back to Windsong Place..
It's the rescue chopper!
Something Old, Something New The End

Shojo Manhwa Scans

Something Old, Something New

Donna Sterling

shojomanhwascans.blogspot.com

Shojo Manhwa Scans

Presents

Kuro no Neko Kiko

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Ruby

Editor: Ruby